

Multi Agency Radiological Laboratory Analytical Protocol Manual



Description

The Department of Energy Office of Environmental Management (DOE-EM) through the Office of Safety, Health and Security (EM-5) participates in various interagency initiatives that focus on data quality, analytical protocols and laboratory accreditation. The Multi-Agency Radiological Laboratory Analytical Protocol (MARLAP) manual development effort is directed by EPA's Radiation Protection Program. EM-5 has been an active participant in the development of the draft MARLAP manual. The intent of the manual is to provide consistent and comprehensive guidance for the entire life cycle of radioanalytical data. This manual will become an important component in the development and execution of programs that result in radiochemical data which meet the needs of the complex and regulators.

Status

The draft MARLAP document has undergone several levels of review including those provided by the participating federal agencies, the public and EPA's Science Advisory Board (SAB). DOE was represented in this review cycle by approximately 75 federal and contractor personnel who reviewed and commented on the draft document. In April 2002, the MARLAP committee met with the EPA Science Advisory Board to provide an overview of the document and to address queries of the board members. During November 2001, a workshop on the MARLAP concepts and guidance was conducted at a major conference attended by the radioanalytical laboratory community. A similar workshop is scheduled for the Health Physics Society's Annual Meeting in June 2002. During the second half of CY 2002, the MARLAP

committee will address the comments received from the public and the EPA SAB.

Benefit to EM

The primary benefit of MARLAP to DOE-EM is the establishment of a consistent, uniform guidance to assure that laboratory radioanalytical data meets the specific project or program needs and requirements. When finalized, the MARLAP document can form the basis of an overall Measurement Quality Assurance (MQA) program within DOE-EM. In addition, conformance to the MARLAP guidance will be consistent with the regulator's expectations for radioanalytical services and data acceptability.

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